

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS STATE 020565

FOL RPT HONG KONG 1035 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PEKING 26 JAN QUOTE

UNCLAS HONG KONG 1035

FOR A/SY, EA REGIONAL BUREAU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY GENERATOR

1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO CONVERSATION BETWEEN RALPH SCARRITT, REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR EAST ASIAN AREA, AND KNAUF DURING RSS RECENT CONSULTATION WHILE IN WASHINGTON REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF A "FREEBEE" GENERATOR FOR USLO. RSS UNDERSTOOD THAT SUCH GENERATOR WAS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE IN THE EA AREA, PRESUMABLY LOCATED IN BANGKOK.

2. OIC/RTC JOHN BAGNAL RECENTLY RETURNED FROM PEKING AND HAD DISCUSSED THE WHOLE RANGE OF EMERGENCY GENERATORS WITH THE ADMIN OFFICER AT THE MISSION AS WELL AS WITH OTHER OFFICERS AT THE POST. BAGNAL REPORTS THAT THE CONCENSUS OF OPINION IN PEKING WAS THAT ADDITIONAL CAPACITY FOR EMERGENCY ELECTRICAL POWER WAS DESIRABLE AND THAT THEY
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WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE OFFER MADE BY SCARRITT.

3. AS THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR IS AWARE, AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS ONE EMERGENCY 25 KILOWATT GENERATOR FOR CCC OPERATIONS ONLY AVAILABLE IN THE SHED NEAR THE ENTRANCE GATE. ALSO AT THE SAME SITE IS A 110 KILOWATT CATERPILLAR GENERATOR, BUT PRESENTLY INOPERABLE AND IS

BELIEVED TO HAVE A CRACKED BLOCK. MOST RECENT PLAN OF THE MISSION IS TO HAVE TWO CATERPILLAR REPRESENTATIVES FROM HONG KONG OR SINGAPORE TRAVEL TO PEKING TO EXAMINE THE CATERPILLAR UNIT FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON REPAIR. POST IS CONSIDERING REPAIR EVEN IF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE "FREEBEE" GENERATOR MATERIALIZES.

4. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE "FREEBEE" GENERATOR ARE SOLICITED FROM THE REGIONAL BUREAU:

(1) THE NAME OF MANUFACTURER OF THE GENERATOR, THE CAPACITY FOR GENERATING POWER, AND PEAK OVERLOAD CAPACITY.

(2) THE PRESENT LOCATION OF THE UNIT, COST OF SHIPMENT TO PEKING, AND WHO IS TO ASSUME THE CHARGES FOR SHIPMENT.

(3) THE SPECIFIC TYPE OF VOLTAGES AND CYCLES GENERATED, INCLUDING NUMBER OF PHASES AND WHETHER DELTA OR WYE CONFIGURATION.

(4) POST PRESUMES THE GENERATOR USES DIESEL FUEL.

(5) GENERAL CONDITION OF ENGINE AND GENERATOR.

(6) ACCUMULATIVE HOURS OF OPERATION.

OF PERIPHERAL INTEREST, CEC HENRY ROUSE, RESIDENT SEABEE IN THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER, HONG KONG, RELATES THAT HE WAS IN ALASKA DURING LAST SEVERE EARTHQUAKE AND RECALLS THAT AS A RESULT OF SEVERE EARTH TREMORS A NUMBER OF THE GENERATORS IN THE AREA LOST THE CAPACITY TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY DUE TO THE LOSS OF MAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF THEIR PERMANENT MAGNETIC CORES AND ALTHOUGH TOTHERWISE OPERABLE WERE INEFFECTIVE FOR GENERATING ELECTRICITY.

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Subject: EMERGENCY GENERATOR
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